



10-10-02

3618/11

EXPRESS MAIL NO.: EL844532398US
DATE OF DEPOSIT: October 9, 2002

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.: B0932/7154/JH

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Reuss et al.
Serial No: 09/677,910
Filed: October 3, 2000
For: HIGHBACK FORMED OF MULTIPLE MATERIALS
Examiner: Vanaman, F.
Art Unit: 3618

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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OCT 15 2002

GROUP 3600

Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents:

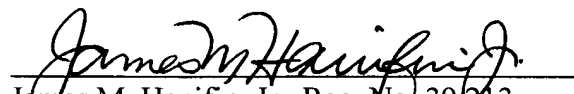
1. Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO-1449 and References; and
3. Return Receipt Postcard.

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (617) 720-3500, Boston, Massachusetts.

A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed to cover the filing fee. If the fee is insufficient, the balance may be charged to the account of the undersigned, Deposit Account No. 23/2825. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Reuss et al., Applicant(s)


James M. Hanifin, Jr., Reg. No. 39,213
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600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, MA 02210
Tel. (617) 720-3500

Date: October 9, 2002



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SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed more than three months after the filing date of this application and after the mailing date of the first Office Action, but before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in this application.

The fee of \$180.00 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is enclosed.

PART II: Compliance with 37 CFR §1.704(d)

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by the office of the undersigned more than 30 days prior to filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

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PART III: Information Cited

The Applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified).

The Examiner's attention is directed to the enclosed Japanese Search Report for Japanese Utility Model Application No. 600040/2001, which is the Japanese counterpart to the above-identified application.

PART IV: Explanation of Non-English Language References and Remarks Concerning Other Information Cited

The following is a concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified):

In addition to the Japanese Search Report, the relevance of JP 9-108398 may be further gleaned by its figures and the enclosed partial English translation. Enclosed also is an English language Abstract for this reference obtained from Online Patent Database, Delphion.

PART V: Remarks

Documents cited anywhere in the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed unless otherwise indicated. It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.


Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Reuss et al., Applicant(s)

By: _____


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Docket No. **B0932/7154**

Dated: October 9, 2002